Application No. 10/051,390 Reply dated January 4, 2005 Response to Office Action dated October 19, 2004

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-12. (cancelled)

13. (previously presented) An airbag system for a vehicle having sensors that detect an accident-specific variable and a person-specific variable, the system comprising:

an airbag;

a deployment arrangement adapted to fill the airbag with gas when the deployment arrangement interprets an event as an impact against an obstacle, the deployment arrangement including:

independently deployable first and second chambers, the first chamber being capable of filling the airbag with a larger quantity of gas than the second chamber, wherein the deployment arrangement is configured to determine whether to deploy the first or second chamber first on the basis of an evaluation of the accident-specific variable and the person-specific variable, wherein the sensors include sensors for detecting an actual vehicle speed and a relative vehicle speed, and wherein the deployment arrangement is configured to determine whether to deploy the first or second chamber first on the basis of an evaluation of an crash angle and a crash severity, each of the crash angle and crash severity being determined as a function of vehicle type, the actual vehicle speed and the relative vehicle speed.

14. (currently amended) A method for deploying an airbag system for a vehicle having sensors that detect an accident-specific variable and a person-specific variable, the airbag system including airbag and a deployment

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arrangement adapted to fill the airbag with gas when the deployment arrangement interprets an event as an impact against an obstacle, the deployment arrangement including independently deployable first and second chambers, the first chamber being capable of filling the airbag with a larger quantity of gas than the second chamber, the method comprising:

evaluating the accident-specific variable and the person-specific variable;

determining whether to deploy the first or second chamber first using the accident-specific variable and the person-specific variable;

deploying the first and second chambers in the determined sequence to fill the airbag with gas when the deployment arrangement interprets an event as an impact against an obstacle; and

detecting at least an actual vehicle speed and a relative vehicle speed, speed using at least one of the sensors, and wherein evaluating the accident-specific variable and the person-specific variable includes evaluating at least one of an crash angle and a crash severity, each of the crash angle and the crash severity being determined as a function of at least one of vehicle type, the actual vehicle speed and the relative vehicle speed.